

spot areas. Further, Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that one smog tower be installed at Connaught Place by the Delhi Government and another be installed at Anand Vihar by the Central Pollution Control Board. The Project Appraisal and Approval Committee at CPCB has in-principle approved the proposal for installation of one smog tower at Anand Vihar in Delhi.

High level of air pollution

1168. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the level of air pollution has been extremely high as compared to the previous years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of funds allocated to handle this threat, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board presently monitors ambient air quality in 793 locations covering 344 cities across the country under the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). Most of the cities have been found complying to the National Standards with respect to SO₂ and NO₂ levels. However, as per last five-year ambient air quality data (2014-2018), 122 cities were identified as the non-attainment cities.

(c) Under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), for cities with million plus population and PM₁₀>90µg/m₃, MoEF&CC has earmarked ₹10 crores per city for various components which inter-alia includes Installation and commissioning of Continuous Ambient Air Quality monitoring Stations (CAAQMS), Creating green buffer zone along the roads, Mechanical street sweeper, Mobile Enforcement Unit, Public awareness and capacity building activities, water sprinkler, etc. For cities with population less than 5 lakhs, funds of ₹10 lakhs per city and for cities with a population of 5 to 10 lakhs, ₹20 lakhs per city has been allocated for capacity building and public awareness programmes.

Forest coverage across the country

1169. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of area under forest across all States in the country, State-wise;

(b) the increase/decrease in the area under forests across all States during the last five years, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been large scale encroachments on forest land across various States including but not limited to New Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, details of the Total forest land encroached and the steps taken by Government to recover such land, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, an organisation under the Ministry carries out the assessment of forest and tree cover of the country biennially and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). ISFR-2019 is the latest in the series. As per ISFR-2019, the State/UT-wise forest cover alongwith percentage is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The State/UT-wise details of increase/decrease in the forest cover as per ISFR-2019, 2017 and 2015 are given in Statement-II and III (*See* below).

(c) and (d) As per reports received from States/UTs Forest Departments, the State/UTs-wise area under encroachment is given in Statement-IV (*See* below).

The primary responsibility of protection of forests from various threats including encroachment lies with the respective States and Union Territories (UTs). The respective State Governments and UT Administrations take action against those who found guilty in this regard, as per the extant acts, rules and regulations made thereunder.

The State Governments and UT Administrations, besides taking legal actions against encroachment as per the extant acts, rules and regulations, also take various other measures such as demarcation and digitization of forest boundaries, strengthening infrastructure for forest protection, involving fringe area forest communities such as Joint Forest Management Committees, Eco Development Committees etc., to prevent and control encroachments.

Statement-I*Forest Cover in the States/UTs as per ISFR-2019*

(Area in square kilometre)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Geographical Area	2019 Assessment			Total Forest Cover	Percentage of forest cover to the Total geogra- phical area
			VDF	MDF	OF		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,62,968	1,994	13,938	13,205	29,137	17.88
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	21,095	30,557	15,036	66,688	79.63
3.	Assam	78,438	2,795	10,279	15,253	28,327	36.11
4.	Bihar	94,163	333	3,280	3,693	7,306	7.76
5.	Chhattisgarh	1,35,192	7,068	32,198	16,345	55,611	41.13
6.	Delhi	1,483	6.72	56.42	132.30	195.44	13.18
7.	Goa	3,702	538	576	1,123	2,237	60.43
8.	Gujarat	1,96,244	378	5,092	9,387	14,857	7.57
9.	Haryana	44,212	28	451	1,123	1,602	3.62
10.	Himachal Pradesh	55,673	3,113	7,126	5,195	15,434	27.72
11.	Jammu and Kashmir#	53,258*	4,203	7,952	8,967	21,122	39.66
	UT of Jammu and Kashmir						
	UT of Ladakh	1,69,421*	78	660	1,752	2,490	1.47
	TOTAL (J&K)	2,22,236	4,281	8,612	10,719	23,612	10.62
12.	Jharkhand	79,716	2,603	9,687	11,321	23,611	29.62
13.	Karnataka	1,91,791	4,501	21,048	13,026	38,575	20.11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Kerala	38,852	1,935	9,508	9,701	21,144	54.42
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3,08,252	6,676	34,341	36,465	77,482	25.14
16.	Maharashtra	3,07,713	8,721	20,572	21,485	50,778	16.50
17.	Manipur	22,327	905	6,386	9,556	16,847	75.46
18.	Meghalaya	22,429	489	9,267	7,363	17,119	76.33
19.	Mizoram	21,081	157	5,801	12,048	18,006	85.41
20.	Nagaland	16,579	1,273	4,534	6,679	12,486	75.31
21.	Odisha	1,55,707	6,970	21,552	23,097	51,619	33.15
22.	Punjab	50,362	8	801	1,040	1,849	3.67
23.	Rajasthan	3,42,239	78	4,342	12,210	16,630	4.86
24.	Sikkim	7,096	1,102	1,552	688	3,342	47.10
25.	Tamil Nadu	1,30,060	3,605	11,030	11,729	26,364	20.27
26.	Telangana	1,12,077	1,608	8,787	10,187	20,582	18.36
27.	Tripura	10,486	654	5,236	1,836	7,726	73.68
28.	Uttar Pradesh	2,40,928	2,617	4,080	8,109	14,806	6.15
29.	Uttarakhand	53,483	5,047	12,805	6,451	24,303	45.44
30.	West Bengal	88,752	3,019	4,160	9,723	16,902	19.04
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8,249	5,678	684	381	6,743	81.74
32.	Chandigarh	114	1.36	14.24	6.43	22.03	19.32
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	0	80	127	207	42.16
34.	Daman and Diu	111	1.40	5.69	13.40	20.49	18.46
35.	Lakshadweep	30	0	16.09	11.01	27.10	90.33
36.	Puducherry	490	0	17.66	34.75	52.41	10.70
TOTAL		32,87,469	99,278	3,08,472	3,04,499	7,12,249	21.67

* Area of shape file provided by Survey of India (December, 2019). Notified geographical area from SOI awaited.

Includes Jammu and Kashmir area outside LoC that is under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China.

Statement-II*Change in forest cover of States/UTs between 2015 and 2017 assessment*

(Area in square kilometre)

States/UTs	Geographic Area as per census	Forest cover as per ISFR 2015 (updated)	Forest cover as per ISFR 2017	Total Change in forest cover
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1,62,968	26,006	28,147	2,141
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	67,154	66,964	-190
Assam	78,438	27,538	28,105	567
Bihar	94,163	7,254	7,299	45
Chhattisgarh	1,35,192	55,559	55,547	-12
Delhi	1,483	188.77	192.41	3.64
Goa	3,702	2,210	2,229	19
Gujarat	1,96,244	14,710	14,757	47
Haryana	44,212	1,580	1,588	8
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	14,707	15,100	393
Jammu and Kashmir*	2,22,236	22,988	23,241	253
Jharkhand	79,716	23,524	23,553	29
Karnataka	1,91,791	36,449	37,550	1,101
Kerala	38,852	19,278	20,321	1,043
Madhya Pradesh	3,08,252	77,426	77,414	-12
Maharashtra	3,07,713	50,699	50,682	-17

1	2	3	4	5
Manipur	22,327	17,083	17,346	263
Meghalaya	22,429	17,262	17,146	-116
Mizoram	21,081	18,717	18,186	-531
Nagaland	16,579	12,939	12,489	-450
Odisha	1,55,707	50,460	51,345	885
Punjab	50,362	1,771	1,837	66
Rajasthan	3,42,239	16,106	16,572	466
Sikkim	7,096	3,353	3,344	-9
Tamil Nadu	1,30,060	26,208	26,281	73
Telangana	1,12,077	19,854	20,419	565
Tripura	10,486	7,890	7,726	-164
Uttar Pradesh	2,40,928	14,401	14,679	278
Uttarakhand	53,483	24,272	24,295	23
West Bengal	88,752	16,826	16,847	21
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8249	6,751	6,742	-9
Chandigarh	114	21.66	21.56	-0.1
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	206	207	1
Daman and Diu	111	19.61	20.49	0.88
Lakshadweep	30	27.06	27.10	0.04
Puducherry	490	56.95	53.67	-3.28
TOTAL	32,87,469	7,01,495	7,08,273	6,778

* Includes Jammu and Kashmir area outside LoC that is under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China.

Statement-III*Change in forest cover of States/UTs between 2017 and 2019 assessment*

(Area in square kilometre)

States/UTs	Geographic Area as per census	Forest cover as per ISFR 2017	Forest cover as per ISFR 2019	Total change in forest cover
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1,62,968	28,147	29,137	990
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	66,964	66,688	-276
Assam	78,438	28,105	28,327	222
Bihar	94,163	7,299	7,306	7
Chhattisgarh	1,35,192	55,547	55,611	64
Delhi	1,483	192.41	195.44	3.03
Goa	3,702	2,229	2,237	8
Gujarat	1,96,244	14,757	14,857	100
Haryana	44,212	1,588	1,602	14
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	15,100	15,434	334
Jammu and Kashmir*	2,22,236	23,241	23,612	371
Jharkhand	79,716	23,553	23,611	58
Karnataka	1,91,791	37,550	38,575	1,025
Kerala	38,852	20,321	21,144	823
Madhya Pradesh	3,08,252	77,414	77,482	68
Maharashtra	3,07,713	50,682	50,778	96

1	2	3	4	5
Manipur	22,327	17,346	16,847	-499
Meghalaya	22,429	17,146	17,119	-27
Mizoram	21,081	18,186	18,006	-180
Nagaland	16,579	12,489	12,486	-3
Odisha	1,55,707	51,345	51,619	274
Punjab	50,362	1,837	1,849	12
Rajasthan	3,42,239	16,572	16,630	58
Sikkim	7,096	3,344	3,342	-2
Tamil Nadu	1,30,060	26,281	26,364	83
Telangana	1,12,077	20,419	20,582	163
Tripura	10,486	7,726	7,726	0
Uttar Pradesh	2,40,928	14,679	14,806	127
Uttarakhand	53,483	24,295	24,303	8
West Bengal	88,752	16,847	16,902	55
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8249	6,742	6,743	1
Chandigarh	114	21.56	22.03	0.47
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	207	207	0
Daman and Diu	111	20.49	20.49	0.00
Lakshadweep	30	27.10	27.10	0.00
Puducherry	490	53.67	52.41	-1.26
TOTAL	32,87,469	7,08,273	7,12,249	3,976

* Includes Jammu and Kashmir area outside LoC that is under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China.

Statement-IV*Area under encroachment as reported by the State/UTs Forest Department*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Area (in hectare)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29800.50
2.	Bihar	132.21
3.	Chhattisgarh	19330.64
4.	Gujarat	157.862
5.	Goa	Nil
6.	Haryana	153.51
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4629.88
8.	Jharkhand	26496
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	10279.28
10.	Karnataka	2,04,297.36
11.	Kerala	7801.10
12.	Madhya Pradesh	534717.28
13.	Maharashtra	59663.85
14.	Odisha	78505.08
15.	Punjab	5363.05
16.	Rajasthan	10839.76
17.	Tamil Nadu	15010.71
18.	Telangana	3056.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	26125.35
20.	Uttarakhand	10649.11
21.	West Bengal	10214.80
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	58636.13
23.	Assam	317215.39
24.	Manipur	2213.82

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Area (in hectare)
25.	Meghalaya	9850.52
26.	Mizoram	9457.23
27.	Nagaland	2479.96
28.	Sikkim	2817.21
29.	Tripura	6.77
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3,887.72
31.	Chandigarh	14.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.08
33.	Daman and Diu	87.83
34.	Lakshadweep	Nil
35.	Delhi	361.62
36.	Puducherry	Nil

Shut down of Sterlite Copper Plant

1170. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sterlite Copper Plant, Thoothukudi, the largest smelter in Tamil Nadu has been shut down on the order passed by Principal Secretary to State Government, who in his capacity as Chairman of Pollution Control Board exercised his powers to direct closure of plant;

(b) if so, whether officer has become judge of his own case thus rendering closure of largest plant without adhering to laid down procedures; and

(c) if so, steps Government is contemplating to enquire into closure of plant by using different powers and by not giving any show cause notice to party as laid down in Environment (Protection) Act, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The State Government of Tamil Nadu issued Government Order G.O. (Ms) No. 72 dated 28.05.2018 for closure